

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 15708 220225Z  
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 HEW-04 AID-05 DODE-00 CA-01  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 MED-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 /037 W  
-----121012 220229Z /72  
O 220201Z DEC 77  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8279

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 15708

FOR WALSH, OES/ENP

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TBIO, HK  
SUBJECT: INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC IN HONG KONG

REF: STATE 301942

1. FOLLWOING IS RESPONSE TO QUERIES POSED IN REFTEL:

A. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM HONG KONG GOVERNMENT  
MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT INDICATES INCIDENCE OF  
APPROXIMATELY 300 CASES OF INFLUENZA DURING FIRST HALF OF  
DECEMBER. THIS COMPARES WITH APPROXIMATELY 400 CASES DURING  
ENTIRE MONTH OF NOVEMBER. ALTHOUGH HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
CONCERNED, PRESENT NUMBERS ARE NOWHERE NEAR EPIDEMIC  
PROPORTIONS. SINCE FLU IS NOT AN ILLNESS WHICH MUST BE  
REPORTED, FOREGOING FIGURES BASED ONLY ON CASES OBSERVED  
IN GOVERNMENT CLINICS.

B. FLU AFFECTS ALL AGES. NO STATISTICAL DATA  
AVAILABLE ON INCIDENCE AMONG VARIOUS AGE GROUPS.

C. THERE HAVE BEEN NO DEATHS DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE  
TO FLU.

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2. TYPE OF FLU PRESENTLY OBSERVED BEARS RESEMBLANCE TO THE  
A-1 STRAIN PREVALENT DURING 1947-56 WORLD FLU EPIDEMIC.

3. AMCONGEN WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR LOCAL SOURCES  
REPORT ANY SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION.  
SHOESMITH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EPIDEMICS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 22-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977HONGK15708  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770476-0977  
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**From:** HONG KONG  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19771227/aaaaawnu.tel  
**Line Count:** 61  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 8e1949fe-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 301942  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 148447  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC IN HONG KONG  
**TAGS:** TPHY, OSCI, TBIO, HK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009